



Own or Rent the Lifestyle ...

To inquire about our luxurious accommodations, please visit us in The Fairmont Village Mall.

www.fairmontcreek.ca

250-345-6116



Music & Entertainment George J. Blisner

Greetings folks and welcome to music of flowering May. **The Hoodoos Lounge & Grill** is again producing this month's entertainment highlights. Ending April with a great performance by Chris Whitely and his dobro prowess combined with Diane Braithwaite's beautiful voice made for an evening of killer blues. This month The Grill is bringing in **Gorilla Funk Monster** with Lynn Olagundoyefor on the May long weekend, May 18th and 19th. Enjoy a high end jazz funk sound. They also have their usual Saturday night jam hosted by Brian Morris. Rory, the manager, also announced that the new deck seating section will be operational and refers to it as 'A Hidden Hoodoos Oasis'. Sounds intriguing. In Invermere, on May 20th, The Eddy Memorial Arena along with On Top Productions is bringing in **Trooper** part of their 80's Reunion Tour. They are going to be backed by our local young rockers, the much improved, **Stand By For the Bomb**. The show should really rock the arena again. Finally.

Head to **The Sportsman's Lounge** at Riverside Golf Course for the popular Thursday Night Jams all this month, featuring talented locals, **John Cronin & Friends**. Saturday nights, also down at The Sportsman's, is Karaoke hosted by **Crazy Gal**. **The Farside Pub & Eatery** has its own usual Tuesday Karaoke Night, also with **Crazy Gal**.

As for internet tunes, I have found a lot of great music from the 60's and 70's. Music that I had forgotten about and you kids will really enjoy and so will your parents. So download some for them! I am also looking for a alternate source of music sharing other than Limewire that doesn't have the smut and other crap found with the aforementioned. You can contact me at blisconst@shaw.ca with your ideas, thoughts or music news. Thanks again. Enjoy and good music to all.

ROCKIES WEST REALTY
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DIRECTOR'S PLATINUM AWARD
THE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
PRESIDENT'S GOLD AWARD
DIAMOND AWARD

A Restaurant Review... Always Hungry

Amsterdam, Montreal, San Francisco. Invermere? Besides the seasonal herds of squinting tourists, just what could our valley's unofficial capitol have in common with these fine destinations? The answer, dear reader, can be found at **The Blue Dog Café**.

First of all, this small eatery is impressive simply because it doesn't try to be. The wonderful ambience could not have emerged from a concept committee or likewise management scheme, it is just effortlessly and abundantly there. Unassuming, busy, cozy, a little too noisy, in essence- perfectly charming. The food is easy to rave about as well. The focus at **The Blue Dog** is firmly on high quality, healthy ingredients that satisfy rather than stuff the patron. My appetite was rewarded after every slow bite as I felt strangely overjoyed that "cheeseburger" was absent from the menu. It was as though the classroom bully was sent home permanently due to a nasty pox (a happy and rare announcement indeed). Anyway, call the girls (but not during the lunch rush) at 342 3814 and they can tell you more. There is in fact so much more to tell: from breakfast all day to **The Blue Dog** at Night; not to mention that you don't have to travel to famous places to get a real meal.

Oh, by the way: patio opening soon!



Industry Leaders in Supply Install and Dustless Sanding Technology



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History Bites

The old house standing between the road up to the Fairmont Resort and Mountainside Golf Course is the former home of Sam Brewer. He operated a stage-coach stop for those travelling up and down the valley.

Brewer was an American with a restless, adventuresome nature. He was drawn north for the gold rush and left his English wife, Helen until he had settled. She had did not know if he was living or dead before she heard from him five years later.

Once Helen had come north to join Sam, living in Perry Creek where Sam had a placer mine, they soon had a child; the first white child born in the East Kootenay. Two years later, the family made their way north to Fairmont Hot Springs where they were welcomed by the first settler of Fairmont, George Geary. Geary had established a post office and the stop for stagecoaches running from Golden to Fort Steele. The two men went into partnership and in two years Brewer bought out Geary's share. The Brewers were frequent users of the hot springs.

PLEASE NOTE:

Fairmont Hot Springs Pools
will be CLOSED
April 23-May 16, 2007

SIGN ARTISTS

COLUMBIA VALLEY

CUSTOM SIGNS & GRAPHIC DESIGN

250.342.8331

Fairmont Reads

Book Babe

Children I know ride bikes, swim at the pool or lake, take Karate classes and play soccer. They also watch a lot of T.V., play computer games and make the occasional batch of cookies with mom. A pretty leisurely existence, creating warm, comforting memories yet for the most part, taken for granted.

This became very clear to me reading Ishmael Beah's, *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*. By highschool, this young man had not only seen the barbarity of war, but had participated in it. He states plainly that he "shot anything that moved". Though utterly appalling, there is nothing sensational in the language he uses in describing prepubescent and pubescent boys, jacked up on drugs, armed with AK-47's, committing casual mass slaughter of innocents and peers.

Beah was only 12 years old when the civil war in Sierra Leone became a part of his reality in 1993. After an overnight trip away with his older brother and friends, Ishmael returns to his home to find his village raided and destroyed and his family gone. The boys find themselves on the run, tired, starving and in constant fear for their own lives. Months are spent wandering jungle paths, distrusted and harassed by villagers that might have provided brief safety, until they are captured and recruited into the army. With the aid of fear and an endless supply of drugs, they are quickly dehumanized. They are briefly trained with weapons; weapons that in some cases are too big for the smaller children to use. After a two year drug infused killing spree, Ishmael is rescued by UNICEF fieldworkers and sent to a rehabilitation centre in Freetown. With the help of care, compassion, counselling and trained attention, he makes his way back to humanity. An articulate and charismatic young man, Ishmael, still a teen, is asked to bring his stories to the UN to shed light on the barbarity of using children in war for the rest of the world. Ishmael goes on to study in the U.S. and lives there currently. This is the story of a hip-hop loving, playful, active boy transformed into a mindless killer. In the more than fifty conflicts going on worldwide, it is estimated that there are some 300,000 children just like him. After years of hearing the analysis of these children from others, it is truly astonishing to hear of this journey spoken in first person. Ishmael Beah is the first to give this atrocity a voice. This book is a remarkable first effort and a must read for everyone. We see images of brutal and bloody African conflicts regularly, but it seems so far away. Look at your own children and imagine a different reality. A reality no family and certainly no child should have to endure.

If you have a recommendation for Fairmont Reads or if you have a book you would like to review please let us know. www.tcphoto@shaw.ca

Happy Mother's Day!



We've had a facelift and are ready for Spring!

#5, Fairmont Village Mall

250.345.6133

Flix Movie Maven

A world without hope. A world without children. Grey. Dangerous. This is the future in Alfonso Cuarón's dark and riveting thriller, *Children of Men*. The movie opens with the death of an 18 year old young man and its grim impact worldwide. He was the youngest person on the planet. Mass infertility has plunged the globe into chaos, paranoia and despair. Thanks to brutal Homeland Security measures only England remains somewhat insulated from the anarchy and rioting that plagues the rest of the world. Until he is brought face to face with an amazing revelation bringing a new hope for the future, a disillusioned political activist, Theo, played with quiet brilliance by Clive Owen, mindlessly functions through his hopeless, meaningless existence. The film explores fear, security, and despair; how catastrophic events can undermine the values, principles and even humanity that we hold so dear but often take for granted. The parallels to actual current events can sometimes be startling.

A really good movie!

Grand Slam Challenge for Cancer Sunday, May 13, 2007

Fairmont Anniversary Golf Tournament

Come out and enjoy 9 holes of golf at Mountainside, Creekside and Riverside golf courses as well as delicious buffet breakfast and dinner.

We look forward to seeing you in this one of a kind 3 Course Grand Slam event for the Canadian Cancer Society. It's guaranteed to be an exciting and rewarding day!

You Will Make a Difference!

Please visit either of these locations to register:

Mountainside Golf Resort
5068 Hot Springs Road
250-345-6514

Riverside Golf Resort
5097 Riverview Road
250-345-6346

Happy Birthday!

Coral Fi-Fi, 3

May 13

Happy Mother's Day!

Gel and Acrylic nail services now offered at Natural Springs Spa!



Natural Springs Spa
FAIRMONT HOT SPRINGS RESORT
Open daily 10am to 6pm
250-345-6007

Health & Aesthetics

**Noelene Anderson, Stylist,
Trims and Treasures Esthetics Studio**

FLAT IRON 101:

Flat irons are the most essential tool for today's hairstyles. The purposes of a flat iron are to straighten hair; to curl hair; to add flips to hair; help remove bulk from hair; smooth cuticle in hair, giving a shiny appearance. There are three different types of flat irons. There are ceramic plates, non ceramic plates and glass plates. Ceramic plates are the best type of iron to buy as they heat up to at least 200 degrees. The heat from these straighteners means you only have to slide through the hair once or twice at the most. Using a good thermal protector spray helps protect your hair from the heat of the flat iron and the hair dryer. To use your iron, section hair into small thin sections and slide iron through to ends. If the section is too thick the hair will not straighten properly. Experiment with your iron and have fun. You can create beautiful spiral curls, soft bouncy curls, straight sleek hair, and choppy funky looks. The best recommendation for a flat iron is a Chi iron. This iron can be found in any good salon and retails around \$200. Flat irons have revolutionized hair styling, giving both stylists and clients more freedom to change their look from day to day. If you have any questions regarding this technique or any other hair issue please call *Trims and Treasures* for a consultation.



2007 Bird Festival



May 7- 13, 2007

Renew your spirit of wonder over our natural heritage - come home to one of the longest systems of continuous wetlands in North America.

Over 265 species of birds have been recorded in a 150 km stretch of the Columbia Valley Wetlands from Canal Flats to Spillimacheen. Flanked by grasslands, forest, alpine meadows and rocky crags this "Serengeti of the North" supports abundant wildlife and provides spectacular vistas for the eleventh annual Wings Over the Rockies Bird Festival.

Choose from over 85, high quality, creative and educational events to enjoy with your family.

Discover the world of birds through activities such as guided nature walks, Columbia River floats, voyageur canoe trips, horseback riding in the grasslands, art exhibits, evening presentations, workshops, children's festival, Wings gala banquet, birdathon and much more!

Walk in the wilderness with experts to see osprey, eagles and lots of waterfowl. Float on the river or visit the national and provincial parks within a World Heritage Site, or perhaps soak in local hot springs, while participating in British Columbia's longest bird festival.

For more information and to reserve your spot in any of the various activities please visit:

www.wingsovertherockies.org

Fairmont and Columbia Lake Events:

Thunderhill Birdathon (U)

Gary Tipper

Thunderhill ranch is a Nature Conservancy of Canada property, which is managed by property owners Brian and David McKersie as a working cattle ranch. There is a variety of wetlands, grasslands and upland forest with vehicle access. We can park and carpool to a variety of locations. Work alongside professional biologists in collecting biological inventory data for the NCC.

Sat. May 12, 7am - noon

MEET: Hoodoo Grill

Cost \$10.00

Nature from the Saddle (U)

Diamond B Outfitting, Brian Fiveland

Enjoy a leisurely guided tour of the Stanford Range of the Rocky Mountains with Brian.

Let your horse do the walking as you do the watching! The views are spectacular. Don't forget your binoculars.

Mon. May 7 through to Sun. May 13, 1:00 pm

Meet: Fairmont Livery, Fairmont Hot Springs

Cost \$40.00

The Nature Trust of BC Hoodoos Nature Walk (I)

Rob Neil, Bill Ayrton and Trevor Kinley

Join The Nature Trust East Kootenay Conservation Land Manager Rob Neil, geologist Bill Ayrton and wildlife biologist Trevor Kinley, to explore the spectacular Hoodoos property. Learn about the natural wonders of this ecological masterpiece, the geology of the Columbia Valley and the Hoodoos, and the birds that are found in both the wetlands and up on the cliffs of the Hoodoos.

Sat. May 12, 10:00 am

The Hawke Road intersection with the Westside Road

Cost \$15.00

Source of the Columbia River (I)

Colin Cartwright, The Village of Canal Flats

Hike to the headwaters! Join local history buff Colin Cartwright on a walk to explore the springs and canals at the south end of Columbia Lake - the source of the mighty Columbia River - rich in history and birds!

Fri. May 11, 8:00 am -11:00 am

Municipal Office, 8853 Grainger Rd., Canal Flats

Cost \$10.00